

OCTOBER - 1985 ISSUE

THE NEXT MEETING OF THE L.A.R.C. WILL BE HELD THURSDAY, OCT. 10, 1985 AT
THE E.M.O. BUILDING, CORNER OF WATERLOO/VICTORIA AVE.
COFFEE (JAVA, MUD, JOE ETC.) POP AND DONUTS WILL BE SERVED.

THE PREZ SEZ

Some of the information that I have submitted for this months HI-Q may be a bit dated when you read it. I will be going north for the next three months and will be returning around Christmas. In the interm, Ed-KRP will be 'in charge' as he is the Vice-President. It is unfortunate that I have to leave but three months sounded a lot better than two years plus! In that respect, three months don't sound bad, but time will tell.

I wish to apologize for the late delivery of HI-Q last month, but it was beyond anyone's control. Rich-OPI (The Editor) had the stencils typed up on August 20th. and they were delivered to Darla (Pat-HFS's secretary) the next day. She was on holidays until Sept. 1th. The arrangement is that her regular duties come first, with HI-Q done in her 'spare time'. This arrangement has worked well for quite a few years and she and Pat deserve a lot of praise from us for a super job on our behalf.

Although nothing has been said formally, we suspect her regular work load has increased. This coupled with bigger and better issues of HI-Q have resulted in unavoidable delays. This prompted us to see what other arrangements could be made.

Ralph-MZX indicated he has a Gestetner at work he can use, provided we supply the paper. Gary-NNR indicated this should be no problem. It now will fall upon the Editor to assemble and mail out HI-Q. If you can spare an hour or so a month to lend a hand, give Rich a call.

In last month's HI-Q, a number of changes to the constitution were proposed. As HI-Q was late, we decided to postpone tabling these issues until the October meeting.

Rob-OPZ was to do a demo on packet radio, provided someone got the other part of it running. This required connecting "The Black Box" (a TNC or Terminal Node Controller) to a computer and radio. I had indicated I would give it a try, but got swamped with other projects. This prompted me to drop it off with Jim-KRD, but as it turns out, he is still digging out from under the pile. As a result, the demo was postponed until the October meeting. At the last meeting, a 'CR tape of John-OTI's tower raising was shown instead.

While on the subject of HI-Q, and the Sept. meeting, the Exec. had decided to use a mail box set up at VEEFW to 'send out' HI-Q instead of mailing. We felt this would be a good arrangement and result in faster delivery. However, the membership decided that they preferred HI-Q to be mailed. The end result is that HI-Q will continue to be mailed.

I would also like to extend a warm welcome to the code and theory class students. Come February, hopefully there will be a few new call signs floating around town. All the best.

That should bring you up to date and wrap things up for another month. 73 and see you at Christmas!

Tom - VE3CX - Prez

DUES DUES DUES DUES DUES DUES

Your annual dues are now due. If your dues are not paid by the end of the month, this will be your last issue of HI-Q. Don't miss out on this opportunity. RENEW NOW. As a reminder, here is the cost of membership in the L.A.R.C.

- ASSOCIATE - \$10.00 per year. This is for out of town amateurs who wish to follow club activities. This is also for people who are not amateurs, but hope to become amateurs. No voting privileges are granted.
- FULL - \$15.00 per year. This is for amateurs who are residents of Thunder Bay. Full voting privileges are granted.
- FAMILY - \$20.00 per year. This is for families with more than one amateur. Full membership is granted, but only one copy of HI-Q is sent out.
- REPEATER - \$10.00 per year. This is in addition to full or family membership. The club owns and operates two Autopatch Repeaters. If you use them, we ask that you support their maintenance and upkeep.

All memberships include HI-Q, the clubs monthly bulletin.

Mail in your renewal to the club's P.O. Box or contact Ian-LMN, the Secretary. Mailing Address is: Lakehead Amateur Radio Club
P.O. Box 2571
THUNDER BAY, Ontario
P7B 5G1

DIRTY LAUNDRY

VE3CK got short-changed in a parking lot. VE3HFS has a new satellite tracker. VE3CX has gone fishing. VE3OPI got cut off. VE3BCD went on a trading expedition. VE3JAJ is a movie star. VE3KRP has a new job with ABC Sports. VE3OTI has a big stick in the back yard. VE3KRV has a lightning generator in the garage. VE3BBS has a big skunk trap-it works too. VE3YQK is QRV in Kenora on 31/01. VE3CK runs a short 2 meter antenna-Tnx Ed. VE3JAJ found a new way to trim his 2 meter antenna on his mobile.

CLUB RAFFLE

The club will be raffling off a new VCR this Christmas. We will be printing about 3000 tickets, with the draw to be held in December. Our last two raffles have been very successful and hopefully this will not be an exception.

The club will be purchasing new heliax in February, and this Raffle along with the funds from the other two raffles will help cover its' cost. At present, we are finalizing the details. In any event, tickets will be available from Les-JAJ and Bob-NFN. Please contact them or see them at the meeting for tickets.

REPEATER NEWS

There was a bit of controversy raised at the last Exec. meeting wondering what happened to the new heliax for YOT. The new heliax, if required, was to be ordered and installed this summer, but nothing happened, or so it appears.

As you can appreciate, new heliax is expensive, and will cost between \$2,000 and \$3,000 for a new piece. As such, we wanted to be darn sure there was no alternative. As it turns out, heliax is required.

During the summer, we made a pitch to Abitibi-Price for funding. To date, we have received a cheque from them for \$250.00. There is a possibility of receiving a larger donation sometime in September, but we are still awaiting word from them.

As well, we had planned to apply for Wintario funding. Initially, the application forms were to be available in June. For one reason or another, the application forms were not available until August.

Due to the high cost of heliax, we decided to see what else we could use. An American supplier sells heliax for \$1.50 per foot and it looks good. However, we want to make certain we are getting good stuff and we are still awaiting information regarding connectors and grounding kits.

As you can see, we have been busy and these things take time. We have decided to wait for spring installation, with new heliax to be ordered in February. This will give us a chance to hopefully 'double our money' with Wintario, and to come up with a firm decision which supplier to go with.

As well, even if we had decided in June to buy heliax, the club did not have the necessary funds. The clubs' bank balance has since improved, and a motion to purchase heliax in February was passed at the September meeting. In February, we will have a firm price.

So much for heliax. Upon close scrutiny, we have opted for new homebrew controllers for both repeaters. They will be based on the Commodore 64, and have a few advantages over commercial units. Assuming new computers are bought, they can be built for around \$300.00 each vs. \$3,000.00 for commercial. Voice Mail Box features (voice ID, Voice Tail Messages, etc.) can be added later.

cont'd →

REPEATER NEWS (cont'd)

When operational, both repeaters will operate the same. All auto-patch functions will be identical, such as speed dial, dial in, etc.

The 6L can be modified to operate on emergency power, which is difficult at best with a TRS-80 that is running TBR. Features that can't be done with the TRS-80 can also be added. How about a ringing phone for dial-in?

Our decision to go homebrew was not based on economics exclusively. With a computer running things, it is possible to customize it to suit our needs, which would not be possible with a commercial unit. Things like having your call sent when your speed dial is called would be lost. On the other side of the coin, we can retain all of TBR'S features and add a few more. Any function that the commercial unit can do can be duplicated with the 6L. In short, we have the best of both worlds in terms of functions and versatility, for a fraction of the cost.

At present, the repeater committee has put a hold on major expenditures, awaiting the outcome of the Wintario Grant. Even if our bid is not successful, new heliax will be purchased next spring.

This is what the repeater committee is up to and the direction we are pursuing. It can be frustrating awaiting word for when something will happen and hearing bits and pieces, but really not knowing what's happening. This should clear the air on this matter.

Tom VE3CX

AMATEUR EXAM SCHEDULE

The next writing for amateur or advanced is October 16, 1985. The sign up date for this was on September 18 (approx. one month previous to actual writing date)

Upcoming dates for sign up and writing times for next year are:

<u>CUT-OFF DATE</u>	<u>EXAM DATE</u>
January 15, 1986	February 12, 1986
March 19, 1986	April 16, 1986
May 21, 1986	June 18, 1986
September 17, 1986	October 15, 1986

Locally all exams may be written at: Dept. of Communications
33 S. Court Street - Room #330
THUNDER BAY, Ontario
P7B 2W6

HI TOM:

What better way to celebrate the first day of a new month than to write a letter to LARC's "El Presidente", eh???

Actually, I don't think it would be in good taste to discuss this via 2 meters, and we don't often have eyeball QSO's.

There seems to be a good deal of activity now on the TBR machine, frequently rather long QSO's. This type of communication is perfectly legit, however while this is going on, the YQT machine is virtually unused by comparison.

Now, I rarely have any difficulty breaking into a QSO to use the autopatch on TBR, but I feel like an intruder because I likely use it more than many of the locals. The point is, can people be encouraged to use the YQT machine (when it's working) for QSO's and related chit chat?

A good example is the SALT mine net in the morning - why run it on TBR? Why not change it over this fall onto YQT? This would leave the TBR machine more accessible for autopatch and related communications.

How 'bout this for discussion (or reprint in HI-Q)?

73 Dave VE3AVS

P.S. How much longer before we change to Thunder Bay ARC???

COMMENTARY

The above letter was written by Dave-AVS. As requested, the letter was read at the September meeting. This letter is being reprinted in HI-Q, along with the feelings of the membership present at the meeting. If you have an opinion one way or the other, why not send a letter to HI-Q? In any event, here goes.

The club owns and maintains two repeaters, both equipped with autopatch. Should one repeater be busy, it should be a simple matter to QSY to the other machine, and use the autopatch there. At present, VE3YQT does not have the full range of autopatch features available on VE3TBR, but it does work and should be used. We are presently looking at upgrading the autopatch on YQT to include many of the features in TBR.

If both machines are busy, then break in. This should be a simple matter and proceed to use the autopatch. To the best of my knowledge, this should not cause any problems.

As for the matter of extended QSO's and the salt mine net, we should look at what we want the repeaters to do. YQT has greater range, and as such, is used for long range coverage. TBR is for local coverage, and with the salt mine net and extended QSO's, is filling the bill for which it was intended. As for extended QSO's, if the stations are close together, simplex could be considered.

COMMENTARY (cont'd)

Due to an intermod problem, please use 146.94 instead of 146.52. Radio regulations cover the issue of "Frivolous Communications", and don't need to be repeated here. In short, no problem is seen with the current system of usage with the repeaters. If and when problems arise, we could consider modifying this policy.

As to the closing remark regarding the name change, I don't think there is enough support for it at present. This issue is raised every few years, and the club has always voted to retain its' current name. In the past twelve years that I have been a club member, the matter has been raised three or four times and results in lots of controversy.

If there is wide spread support to change, then fine. Please bear in mind the costs involved in changing. We would have to modify our incorporation, get new letterhead printed, etc. As well, we have been making a name for ourselves and the name change would add more problems. In closing, unless there is more support for this matter, it is best to leave sleeping dogs lie.

Tom - VE3CX

LAKEHEAD AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.
FINANCIAL ACTIVITY AUG. 21 - SEPT. 12/85

OPENING BALANCE 2,552.44

REVENUES

Donation	20.00
Course Fees	1,050.00
Dues	115.00
Proceeds from Yard Sale	101.14
TOTAL	1,286.14

EXPENSES

Phone	9.20
Da Vinci Hall Booking	50.00
Da Vinci Meal Deposit	25.00
Service Charge	5.00
Coffee Supplies	13.05
Stamp Pad & Receipt Book	5.01
TOTAL	107.26

DIFFERENCE 1,178.88

NEW BALANCE \$3,731.32

AMATEUR RADIO EMERGENCY SERVICES NEWS....

Many thanks to the amateurs that assisted with the Heart of Thunder Bay Run at Confederation College on Sunday 15 September. The following amateurs deserve honorable mention

VE3KRP-Ed, VE3JAJ-Les, VE3JAA-Arnold, VE3LMN-Ian,
VE3CK-Gary, VE3NHN-Bob, VE3NHX-Lindo, VE3JQ-Keith,
VE3OPI-Richard and the spotters who worked with
the amateurs.

We have now enrolled with the ARES some 48 members. Don't forget the SET (Simulated Emergency Test) on October 19th. We look forward to working with all the ARES members.

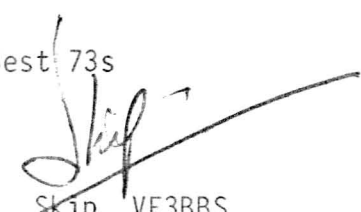
We will mail out to the ARES members, under seperate cover, all the amendments to the present Communication Plan along with the Telephone Tree. Any or all questions will be answered at the November meeting.

Any member of the club that still is not involved with ARES is invited to contact myself or leave your name with Arnold VE3JAA on the Salt Mine Net and I will get an application form to you.

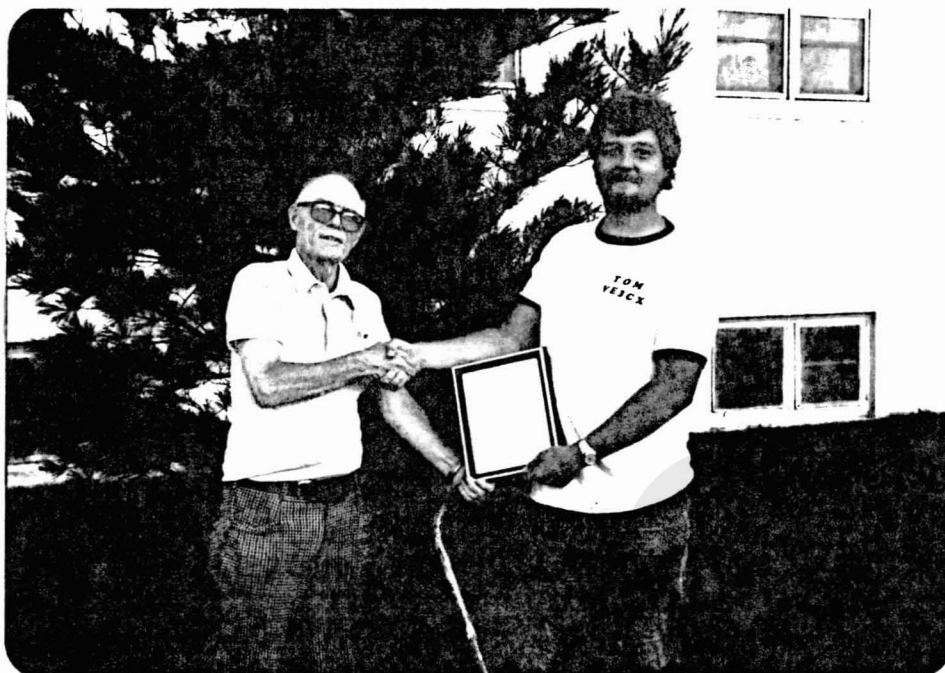
In the meantime don't forget the Northwestern Ontario Net on 3750 KHZ. We meet every night at 0015GMT or 2015 Local Time. Drop in and say hi to the guys. The Thunder Bay Swap N Shop is held every Thursday after the net. If you have some item for sale, trade or wanted, get hold of VE3LMG and he will get it on the air.

The Thursday Night ARES net on VE3YQT is having some problems getting off the ground however we will make every effort to get something going with regards to Thursday Evenings for you 2M buffs. The net starts at 1930hrs.

Best 73s


Skip, VE3BBS

ARNOLD VE3JAA WAS PRESENTED WITH A CERTIFICATE OF MERIT AWARD FOR
HIS CONTRIBUTION TO LAKEHEAD AMATEUR RADIO AND THE SALT MINE NET



PICTURED ABOVE IS ARNOLD VE3JAA (left) BEING PRESENTED THE
CERTIFICATE OF MERIT AWARD FROM CLUB PRESIDENT TOM VE3CX (right).



ARNOLD VE3JAA CONDUCTING THE SALT MINE NET ON TBR FROM
6 A.M. - 9 A.M. MONDAY THRU FRIDAY

**** W O R D P U Z Z L E ****

compliments of
The Bread Board System, Thunder Bay, Ont
807-622-2685 BBS

cqww contest

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R I N W O P U M E C E N O H P O R C I M
C Z M S O P C Q A Z T R M S N A B U G T
Q I R Q T R H L H F K M D Q R A T U Q Q
W S S N D L L O N O I T A G O P O R P P
W L E L U S U X N H W M K O B U L C S F
A B S T I G S S O E I I A V L R Y N A A
X K S G A O G A E J J I R R R Y U Y N W
U A N E C C R I R R G R E E K E H G N A
C S O J N S I G B A G I Y I N C S H E R
O O G C E O P L Y F F C L C O R S O T D
N P F F N U Z F P I G O D N E T A S N S
T E Q K G U C A L U W E D I N F E E A A
A R H S O S F P E A D I L I D I P A Z F
C A L J O I M C T D T P O S R S W D O W
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S O W G W N W E O T G N N E N P S R B N
G R F O T M K N L O A U W N T F T E M N
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H C S H E E M N L C T R D L E M T N X O
D T H W X M Y U W V S L R T S N K D Z I

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FIND THESE HIDDEN WORDS IN THE ABOVE PUZZLE:

amplifier	antennas	award	bands
beams	biggun	callsigns	club
coax	conditions	contacts	contest
countries	cqww	duplicates	entry
fun	hoarse	kilowatt	log
microphone	multipliers	operators	phone
points	proposation	qsl	qso
results	towers	weekend	winners
wire	yas1		

LARC

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